



MANSFIELD ADVOCATES FOR CHILDREN
Wednesday, December 3, 2014
Council Chambers, Town Hall
MINUTES

Members Present: Sara Anderson (staff), Lisa Dahn, Susan Daley, Sarah Delia (staff), Maggie Ferron, Jane Goldman, Cindy Guerreri, Rachel Leclerc, Pat Schneider, Judy Stoughton, Ben Wiles, and Kelly Zimmerman.

Guests: Madison Day, Suzanne Gormley, Heather Lasky, Chris Toomey.

Regrets: Sabrina Hosmer, Carole Norrish, Kathy Ward, Linda Williams, Jillene Woodmansee, Lisa Young.

WHAT	DISCUSSION	OUTCOME
CALL TO ORDER	Sara Anderson called the meeting to order at 5:33pm.	
CONSENT AGENDA	Approval of the Minutes of November 5, 2014 meeting.	<i>The November 5, 2014 Minutes were approved by consensus.</i>
TEAM UPDATES	<p>It was announced that the next MAC Executive Council Meeting will be Thursday, December 11 from 10:00 – 11:30 in conference Room B.</p> <p>Staff Reports: Sara Anderson</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Sara is close to identifying someone to complete School Readiness site visits. This person should be contracted by January. <p>Community Connectedness: Maggie Ferron</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Playground Committee went to the Town Council on November 24 for approval to apply for the STEAP grant for the Playground construction. The approval was not granted. The next Town Council meeting is Monday, December 8 and Maggie intends to appear and talk about support for the Playground from the community in a very positive way. The Committee will be looking at other sites for the Playground. <p>Health Team: Jane Goldman</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Health team is working to collect and analyze BMI data. <p>Successful Learners: Susan Daley</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Susan distributed a handout summarizing the current Pre-Kindergarten to Kindergarten 	

	<p>Transition.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The previous two meetings were well attended. • One conclusion is that families need a parent portal, a place for one stop shopping concerning early education, possibly online. • The Team will continue with outreach to families in January. 	
OLD BUSINESS	The Meeting Schedule was approved for 2015 and will be forwarded to the Town Clerk.	
NEW BUSINESS	<p>Sustainability: Sara Anderson</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sara talked about the Graustein funding changing and possibly disappearing after this fiscal year ends June 30, 2015. • MAC will need to find other ways to sustain itself. Sara asked a number of questions and the responses were recorded by Cindy Guerreri. • Responses recoded on attached sheet. 	
CLOSING	<p>Plus/Delta or Pros and Cons: Sara Anderson</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sara Anderson handed out a sheet of paper to survey how people felt about the meeting in general and asked them to give specific feedback. 	
ADJOURN	<p>The meeting adjourned at 7:26pm.</p> <p>Next Executive Council Meeting, Thursday, December 11, 2014, 10:00am – 11:30am, Conference Room B.</p> <p>Next MAC Meeting, Wednesday, January, 2015, 5:30pm – 7:30pm.</p> <p>Agenda topics: Please send to Sara Anderson at AndersonSD@mansfieldct.org</p> <p>Respectfully submitted, Sarah Delia Assistant to the Early Childhood Services Coordinator</p>	

“All Mansfield Children ages birth through 8 years old are healthy, successful learners, and their families are connected to the community.”

Sustainability Questions and Responses – December 3, 2014

Who Are We?

Advocacy
Think Tank
Collaborative
Resources
Advisors to the Town
Data Driven, Gatherers
Educate Community
School Readiness Council
Partner to UConn
Need more connections with UConn
Town – University Relations Committee

What Have We Done?

Public/Private Preschool
Directors of Centers connected
Home Care Providers connected
School Readiness Council
Through SR funds, provided subsidized care and education
JOY tickets – Arts Event access
Improved communications to schools
PEP (People Empowering People training)
Community Survey/Plan
Playground Committee – Community Engagement
Supported EHHD on 95210
Teacher Training (POP – Power of Play)
Literacy Bags with the Library
Outreach to Graduate Families (International)
Transportation survey
Celebrate Mansfield
Community conversations
Full Day Kindergarten

What Would We Lose?

Playground Support/Infrastructure
Education Parents on services -> One stop
Collaborative relationships -> fragmentation
No formalized group to advocate for early childhood

- School readiness
- Unmet needs
- Threads will unravel

Place for community to connect regardless of person in position

What Would We Lose? (cont)

Organization of data & analysis

Loss of competitive stance for money/funds

Loss of voice at state level

No Birth to 8 voice on Town Human Services Committee

Discussion will continue next time.